

REMARKS

Claims 21-40 are pending in the application. Claims 23 and 40 are amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found at, for example, Page 5, line 11 through Page 6, line 18. No new matter has been added by the amendments. Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowability of Claims 21-22, and 24-39.

Claims 23 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to satisfy the written description requirement. The Examiner alleges that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the current claim amendments render this rejection moot.

The Examiner initially rejected Claims 3 and 20 (which claimed subject matter similar to current Claims 23 and 40 in substance and in form), due to the inclusion of the language "and modifications thereof" after the compound lithium metavanadate. The Examiner reasoned that such language led to an infinite number of possible combinations.

Applicants subsequently presented Claims 23 and 40, which altered the language to require a mixture of the recited compounds. The Examiner indicated that the requirement of such a specific mixture was not supported by the original disclosure.

Applicants have amended Claims 23 and 40 to clarify that the element (c) of the coating composition comprises one or more compounds selected from the recited list. Applicants respectfully suggest that such a requirement overcomes both of the Examiner's concerns. The current claim language does not recite a list of infinite possibilities. Instead, the Markush language ensures that the element (c)

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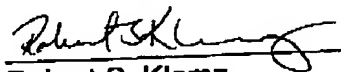
comprises only compounds selected from the recited list. Furthermore, the current claim language is fully supported by the original disclosure. Page 5, line 11 through Page 6, line 18 of the Specification makes it clear that the recited list of compounds are the preferred compounds for use in element (c). Applicants surely had possession of the invention at the time of filing, as they recognized the suitability of each of the listed compounds, having recited each of them on page 6, lines 12-18.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, satisfy the written description requirement and are fully supported by the original disclosure. As such, the Examiner's rejection of Claims 23 and 40 under 35 U.S. C. § 112, first paragraph should be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of Claims 21-40 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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